

Abstract

Even when a jaggy occurs in an original image, the image is accurately enlarged and a good image cannot be obtained as a result.

In the case of performing pixel interpolation on an image in a dot matrix state, image data is entered in step 100, the whole image is scanned while shifting a marked pixel, and whether or not an edge exists in the direction of 45 or 135 degrees by using the marked pixel as a reference is detected in step 115. When an edge at 45 or 135 degrees exists, the edge is smoothed in the direction of either 45 degrees in step 120 or 135 degrees in step 125. After that, pixel interpolation is carried out irrespective of the presence or absence of an edge. Consequently, when there are irregular edges, it can be prevented that an image is directly subjected to pixel interpolation and a jaggy occurs.